

June 26, 2013 Last Updated: 1:00 p.m. Contacts
Report Fires: 911
AFS/DOF Public Affairs: (907) 356-5511

Future updates will be provided when significant changes in activity occur.

#### 6/26 - Fire Information

It is crucial that residents and visitors in Alaska actively prevent wildfires for public safety reasons, for the safety of our firefighters, and because the resources in Alaska are in high demand due to the number of fires statewide and the extremely dry conditions. Lightning-caused fires continue to start; for every human-caused fire that requires response, it means those resources (aircraft, equipment, people) are not available to respond to the fires that we cannot prevent.

If you plan to burn debris, obtain and adhere to Alaska Division of Forestry guidelines and suspensions as outlined by <a href="http://forestry.alaska.gov/burn">http://forestry.alaska.gov/burn</a>. For information about emergency closures for campfires in National Parks in Alaska, visit <a href="http://www.nps.gov/wrst/parkmgmt/currentfireinfo.htm">http://www.nps.gov/wrst/parkmgmt/currentfireinfo.htm</a>.

According to the Alaska Interagency Coordination Center, 99 fires are active statewide; the two largest fires are in the southwest area and include Lime Hills (169,049 acres) and Moore Creek (142,350). A total of 351 fires have burned 533,407 acres so far this year; the majority of that acreage gain has been in the past few weeks due to the hot, dry conditions. Without the relief of cooler, damper temperatures, fires continue to grow quickly and are more resistant to control efforts.

Twenty-two new fires were reported to the Alaska Interagency Coordination Center on Tuesday, half of which were human-caused. Currently 22 fires are staffed but this number can change throughout the day as fires are demobilized and as new fires start that require response. Fire managers are prioritizing the movement of aircraft and personnel to be positioned to respond to new fires.

**Smoke** is visible in many parts of the state and is heaviest in close proximity to fires. Smoke can also hinder firefighting efforts, such as the delivery of supplies to fires. If smoke impacts roadways, motorists are asked to use caution, slow down, and drive with their headlights on. Information on travel conditions can be found at <a href="http://511.alaska.gov">http://511.alaska.gov</a>.

If you are looking for more detailed fire-related information, please refer to the following:

- Situation Report (information about individual fires) http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/aicc/sitreport/current.pdf
- Maps http://fire.ak.blm.gov/predsvcs/maps.php
- News Releases http://fire.ak.blm.gov/newsroom.php
- Fuels and Fire Behavior Advisory <a href="http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/weather/outlooks/FFBehavior.pdf">http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/weather/outlooks/FFBehavior.pdf</a>
- Alaska Wildland Fire Guide (includes information about emergency preparedness and post-fire conditions on p. 7, wildland fire smoke, and more) <a href="http://forestry.alaska.gov/pdfs/Alaska\_Wildland\_Fire\_Guide\_2013.pdf">http://forestry.alaska.gov/pdfs/Alaska\_Wildland\_Fire\_Guide\_2013.pdf</a>

is heavy, please keep calling back if you do not initially reach us.

Fire information for **southwest Alaska**: 907-524-0063 Fire information for the **Fairbanks Area**: 907-451-2704

Fire information for the **Chisana River Fire**, visible from the Yukon Territory and into Alaska: http://inciweb.org/incident/3440/ and http://www.nps.gov/wrst/parkmgmt/currentfireinfo.htm

## Information from past days -

6/25 – Prospect Creek #332 – The fire near the pipeline, Pump Station #5 increased in activity and growth. Observed fire behavior included continuous crowning, group tree torching, and spotting 1/4 mile in front of the fire. The main direction of growth was to the south and southwest. The fire grew in all directions and is 12,500 acres. Fire personnel provided information to local residents. The fire remains in monitor status.

6/24 – Tok Area – Alaska Division of Forestry is monitoring two wildfires that are visible from the communities of Dot Lake and Chicken. The Billy Creek Fire is burning approximately 15 miles northeast of Dot Lake and is visible from the Alaska Highway; the fire was started by lightning Saturday. The Dennison Fork Fire is burning approximately seven miles southeast of Chicken; the fire was started by lightning on June 20.

Chisana River Fire #145 – The fire is approximately 13 miles west of the Canadian border, 18 miles west of Beaver Creek, Yukon, Canada and 21 miles northeast of Chisana. While growth of the fire has slowed in recent days, the high temperatures and low relative humidity forecasted for the coming week will lead to fire growth. Fire managers have developed contingency plans, positioned resources, and have identified management action points to work from should backcountry improvements or natural or cultural resources are threatened.

# Information Gathering/Additional References www.inciweb.nwcg.gov

#### www.twitter.com\_

Alaska Fire Service account: @BLM\_AFS

Alaska Division of Forestry account: **@AK\_Forestry** Bureau of Land Management account: **@BLMAlaska** 

National Park Service account: @AlaskaNPS

US Fish and Wildlife Service account: @USFWSAlaska

Alaska Fire Consortium: @AKfirescience

#### www.facebook.com

BLM Alaska Fire Service account: BLM Alaska Fire Service

Alaska Division of Forestry account: **AK.Forestry** Bureau of Land Management account: **BLMAlaska** 

National Park Service account: AlaskaNPS

US Fish and Wildlife Service account: USFWSAlaska

#### www.youtube.com

Alaska Division of Forestry account: AlaskaDNRDOF

National Park Service account: AlaskaNPS

- Alaska Interagency Coordination Center: <a href="http://fire.ak.blm.gov/">http://fire.ak.blm.gov/</a>
- o Map of Current Fires: <a href="http://fire.ak.blm.gov/predsvcs/maps.php">http://fire.ak.blm.gov/predsvcs/maps.php</a>
- o Alaska Situation Report: http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/aicc/sitreport/current.pdf
- o National Fire Situation Report: http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/sitreprt.pdf
- o Interagency Newsroom (Media Guide): http://fire.ak.blm.gov/newsroom.php
- Alaska Wildland Fire Coordinating Group Education and Reference Materials:

### http://fire.ak.blm.gov/administration/awfcg.php

- Alaska Fire Consortium: http://akfireconsortium.uaf.edu
- Protect your home and property!: <a href="http://firewise.org/">http://firewise.org/</a> and
- http://forestry.alaska.gov/pdfs/firewise09.pdf
- Department of Environmental Conservation (Smoke Concerns):

http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/am/smoke.htm

- Department of Transportation (Road Closure Info): (907) 451-2240, http://511.alaska.gov/
- BLM Alaska Fire Service: <a href="http://fire.ak.blm.gov/afs/">http://fire.ak.blm.gov/afs/</a>
- Alaska Division of Forestry: <a href="http://forestry.alaska.gov">http://forestry.alaska.gov</a>
- o Alaska Division of Forestry (Burn Permit Info): http://forestry.alaska.gov/burn/
- National Parks Service: <a href="http://www.nps.gov/akso/nature/fire/">http://www.nps.gov/akso/nature/fire/</a>
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife: <a href="http://www.fws.gov/fire">http://www.fws.gov/fire</a>
   USDA Forest Service: <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/">http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/</a>
- Anchorage Fire Department: <u>www.muni.org/fire</u>
- National Weather Service: <a href="http://www.nws.noaa.gov/">http://www.nws.noaa.gov/</a>
- Temporary Flight Restriction Information: <a href="http://tfr.faa.gov/tfr2/list.html">http://tfr.faa.gov/tfr2/list.html</a>
- Federal Aviation Administration: <a href="http://www.faa.gov/">http://www.faa.gov/</a>

## AICC Wildland Fire Update is compiled by Alaska Division of Forestry and BLM Alaska Fire Service ##